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volume, and much of which is absolutely new, is offered to those interested in the economic condition and development of Bolivia. Like the preceding work, the volume is the result of personal investigation.

In his introduction, the author covers briefly the subjects of geography; topography; climate; health conditions; population and living conditions; government, education, and intellectual life; and religion. In continuation, other topics treated are as follows; cities and towns; transportation and communications (external trade routes, railways, roads, lake and river navigation, and telegraphs); mining; petroleum; stockraising; agriculture; forest industries; manufactures; labor conditions; colonization, immigration, and land, trade; investments; banking and money; and public finance. The work is concluded by an appendix in which are discussed "Routes from United States to Bolivia", and "Accommodations for travelers in principal cities". There are twenty-three illustrations. The map, as in the preceding volume, is reproduced by permission of Rand McNally.

Although the volume has been compiled as an aid to foreign commerce, it will be found of use to many classes, including those engaged in the teaching profession. As is well known its author has had the advantage of a thorough training in historical investigation and has had actual academic experience as well, so that he has been able to plan his work with an understanding of values. The limitations imposed by the prime nature and purpose of the handbook has compelled a brevity of treatment in many instances which the teacher or student who makes use of it, will regret but excuse. The absence of an index is compensated for partly by an analytical table of contents. It would have been of service had the author appended a list of the best economic authorities of Bolivia. Dr. Schurz it should be noted, has been promoted to the position of Commercial Attaché and is stationed in Rio de Janeiro.

JAMES ALEXANDER ROBERTSON.

Africa and the discovery of America. Vol. 1. By LEO WIENER, Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University. (Philadelphia: Innes & Sons, 1920. Pp. xix, (1), 290.)

The first thing that strikes the reader of this volume is its wonderful display of linguistic learning. The second is the daring with which the author invades the field of archaeologists and historians. Will the former relish being told that one of the conclusions of the eminent author is that "American archaeology was to a great extent built on sand"? And will the second receive with avidity the dogmatic manner with which the author settles historical points? It is believed not. The book

is largely an attempt to prove by language the unreliability of early accounts of America, the foreign origin of certain plants supposedly American, and the early connection between Africa and America. Early civilization, such as it was in the western hemisphere, was largely influenced from Africa. This is the central theme of the volume. But it is not, strictly speaking, a unit. In successive chapters are discussed "The journal of the first voyage and the first letter of Columbus"; "The second voyage"; "Tobacco"; and "The bread roots". We are led far astray in the arguments and well nigh forget the purpose of the work in the discussion of the word roots which the author traces through many tongues.

In the preface, we are told that the study of words has convinced the author that tobacco, manioc, yams, sweet potatoes, and peanuts are not of American origin as is universally believed. Had he consulted the Standard Dictionary, he would have found a foreign origin ascribed to yams and apparently to manioc. It does not, moreover, appear that he has proven that tobacco is of foreign origin. His explanation of how the custom of tobacco smoking spread through the various tribes of American Indians is not convincing. Throughout the volume, there is a dogmatic tone that does not of itself lend credit to the author's assertions. The explanation of how certain readings came to be so in some of the old works is ingenious, but is, after all not good evidence, and in some instances appears far-fetched. On the other hand, the discussion relative to "ghost-words", will be followed with interest, although perhaps not with full credence. The discussion regarding the word "Guanahani", is probably the most interesting and may receive some serious consideration.

In writing the volume, Professor Wiener has consulted many authorities as is shown by the bibliographical list preceding the text. The volume, if not thrown aside after a brief examination, will prove stimulating, although perhaps, mainly in a negative way. A second volume is promised, in which the author will set forth his views regarding African fetichism, in which he proposes to show "by documentary evidence to what extraordinary extent the Indian medicine-man owes his evolution to the African medicine-man, who in his turn derives his wisdom from the popular Arabic medical science and religion". In the matter of Indian religion, everything is topsy-turvy, according to the author. Professor Wiener's work recalls to the reviewer a work written by an English clergyman some years ago wherein it is stated that all English history for some hundreds of years back has been misreported.

JAMES ALEXANDER ROBERTSON.